

Internet 12 for transmitting and receiving electronic mail messages and for accessing the World Wide Web. Interface 72, as well as a technology tracking unit 74, may be parts of a web browser 76. Interface 72 detects the presence of investor bids or purchase orders and forwards this information to an input buffer 78 for temporary storage. Buffer 78 is connected to a bid tracking module 80 which parses incoming bids to determine investor identities, the relevant investment opportunities, and the numbers of shares or investment units. Bid tracking module 80 is connected to a summing circuit 82 which accesses memory 52 to determine the total numbers of shares or investment units which have been purchased during an on-line investment process as described hereinabove. Bid tracking module 80 is also connected to a recordation unit 84 which updates information stored in memory 52, including bid or subscriptions totals as well as the identities of bidding investors and their respective bid or purchase orders. In addition, bid tracking module 80 is connected to display 36 and printer 38 for informing supervisory personnel, e.g., the evaluation committee of the bid or investment status for any business opportunity currently outstanding for investment.--

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 to read as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method for facilitating financing of new technology, comprising:  
maintaining a host computer connected to a global computer network for receiving, over said network from remote computers, information describing purported advances in technology;  
accessing said host computer to obtain said information;

performing an evaluation of said advances in technology to determine, for each of said